

**Jake**, a 175 lb. Alaskan Malamute, tugs his owner, Don Paetz along from Burien. Grandview and loves the mud!



Jim and Donna Bell from Des Moines braved the weather – and even a bit of snow - with **Dolly**, their golden retriever at a recent visit to the park.



Jennifer, Aaron and A.J. Lemoine, from Kent love their **Jack Russell Terrier** – as do the other dogs at Grandview.



**Shirocco**, a red husky, brings his owners Darrell Ness and Kimberly Lockard out from Auburn for a little exercise.



**Pikus** watches from his dad's arms while companions urge him to come down and play. Grazyna and Boguslaw Pehnak live in Seatac.



Louise Whitcomb and **Tiger**, her Pomeranian, are from Des Moines and take a quick break from all the activity while a small onlooker wonders what's up with that lady and her camera.



Jennifer and Rob Anderson from Des Moines enjoy time at Grandview with their two boxers, **Seville and Mac** – rescue dogs who've found great owners that take the time to care.



Art, Sam and Georgia Ringler from Tukwila bring **Max and Jasper**, their "pound-puppies", to Grandview. Georgia is learning early in life about the joy of healthy pets and responsible ownership.



**Councilmember JULIA PATTERSON** and friends chuckle as the "wreath of sniffs" emerges – just in time for the holidays!



Hundreds of dogs, and their people, joined Councilmember Julia Patterson at the opening of the first off-leash dog park in the area. It's proving to be a popular spot – even in the rain and snow! The park is located just north of the Kent/Des Moines/Interstate 5 interchange on the West side of Military Road. In partnership with eight area cities, S.O.D.A. (Serve Our Dog Areas) currently helps to maintain and operate the park. On a recent visit we discovered that people of all ages love to bring their dogs of all shapes and sizes to enjoy a romp and a sniff – and that our pets are truly members of our family.

## GRANDVIEW OFF-LEASH DOG PARK'S A **HUGE** HIT!

## Council Adopts Unanimous Budget

King County government provides regional and local services for its citizens such as sewage treatment, maintenance of our county road system, and criminal justice services. As your King County Councilmember I represent you on these issues and many others on the King County Council.

King County's regional responsibilities continue to grow but, due to many factors, there is less money coming in than what is needed to provide the same level of services we have had in the past.

We worked cooperatively to find solutions to this problem. We cut costs and increased efficiencies so that we could address the budget shortfall and pass a balanced budget. The Council **unanimously** adopted a budget that maintains public safety, public transit and other basic services while still providing funding for vital human services such as domestic violence counseling, teen health clinics and mental health support. We were able to maintain core services, but also found ways to cut our costs and operate more effectively and efficiently.

## Julia Patterson

Metropolitan King County Council  
District 13  
King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue, Room 1200  
Seattle, Washington 98104-3272

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## Metropolitan King County Council Budget Report

Councilmember  
**Julia Patterson**

Julia Patterson  
King County Council

King County Government is facing challenging times. From reducing transportation congestion to establishing adequate funding for important human services, we are confronted with complex problems that require creative solutions from elected leaders.

In this newsletter I have highlighted some extraordinary people who've made a real difference in our community - and we've also featured some exciting projects and programs in South King County funded in this year's budget. The budget provides funding to establish more parkland, such as the new Grandview Off Leash Dog Park, preserve natural resources like Walker Creek in Normandy Park, and ensures that the Mount Rainier Pool in Des Moines remains open.

I invite you to take a look inside and find out what King County government is doing for you.

Sincerely,

*Julia Patterson*  
King County

[www.metrokc.gov/patterson](http://www.metrokc.gov/patterson)

# Budget Report



# District 13

## SOUTH KING COUNTY PROJECTS INCLUDED IN 2004 BUDGET

### Burien and Normandy Park: Preserving Natural Resources

Funding for two important South King County preservation projects was included in King County's 2004 budget. These projects will preserve delicate natural areas in our community and ensure proper environmental stewardship of valuable resources.

#### Normandy Park Culvert

The culvert, which runs under First Avenue, collapsed due to damage from the 2001 earthquake and recent Autumn storms. Emergency repair was already underway on the culvert and First Avenue, but the City of Normandy Park concluded that complete replacement of the culvert was necessary. The County's 2004 budget provides funding to assist with the replacement and expansion of the culvert. The diameter of the culvert will be increased from 36 inches to 60 inches, allowing for improved fish passage.



#### Walker Creek Wetlands

\$300,000 in funding was directed toward the acquisition of sensitive wetlands at the headwaters of Walker Creek, between Burien and Normandy Park. The 21 acre property, located east of Des Moines Way South, is encumbered by wetlands. The Miller Creek Basin Plan, the Washington State Fish & Wildlife Department, and the Pollution Control Hearings Board have all identified this property as a critical in-basin opportunity for habitat restoration and preservation of wetlands that are currently under imminent threat. The county funding will be pledged toward the purchase of the property, which has recently been appraised at \$425,000. The cities of Normandy Park and Burien have indicated a willingness to work with the County to partner on the complete acquisition of the property. Preliminary discussions will begin early next year.

### Kent and Auburn: Protecting Open Space & Parks

Nearly \$800,000 in funding for additional open space in South King County was included in the County's 2004 Budget.

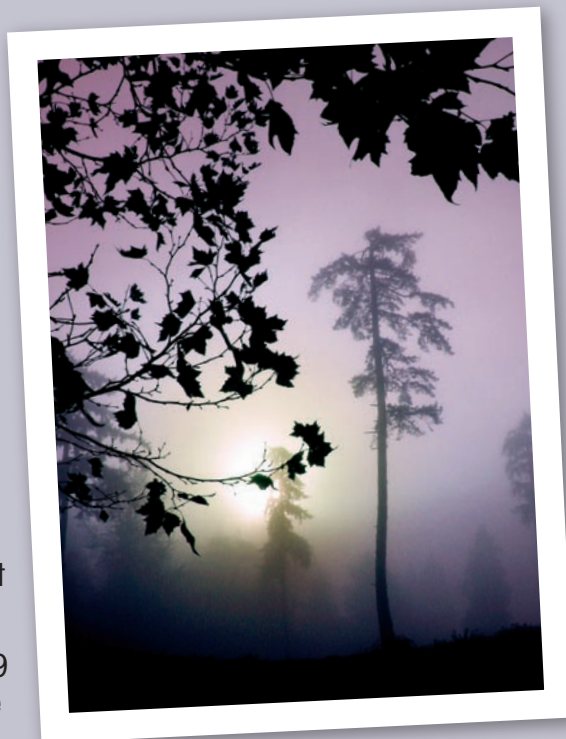
This funding ensures that valuable open space in South King County is preserved and remains free from development. As this region of the county continues to experience rapid growth, it is imperative that we maintain trails, parks and open space.

#### Clark Lake Park –

*Kent (\$300,000)*

The 2004 budget provided \$300,000 in funding for 7.75 acres of additions to Clark Lake Park, located at SE 204th Street in Kent.

This popular park was first developed under the 1989 King County Open Space Bond Program and over the past dozen years King County and the City of Kent have worked to acquire 12 parcels that now constitute Clark Lake Park.



#### Western Street Habitat – *Auburn (\$165,000)*

The four acre property is located along Western Street, adjacent to State Route 167 in Auburn. The project will link up with an existing, city-owned open space property located along the Interurban Regional Trail, increasing the amount of preserved habitat in the Auburn area.

#### Historic Lower Green River Agricultural Production District –

*Between Kent and Auburn (\$330,000)*

This 20 acre parcel, located at 78th Ave South, between South 277th Street and the Green River, is part of the 1,500 acre Lower Green River Agricultural Production District, of which approximately 1,020 acres are permanently preserved. The \$330,000 in funding will increase the green space between the cities of Kent and Auburn, also referred to as an urban divider.

### Des Moines: Mt. Rainier Pool remains open

This pool is a wonderful resource to the entire Highline community. It's used by thousands of residents of all ages and backgrounds, as well as for local high school swim team competitions.

In December the King County Council passed an ordinance that will transfer the pool title to the Cities of Des Moines and Normandy Park. Please thank your local city council members for being willing to assume responsibility for this wonderful asset in the Highline community. The City of SeaTac and the Highline School District will help the Cities of Normandy Park and Des Moines with funding. King County also will provide capital funding (used for maintaining the structure) of \$50,000 this year, and an additional \$26,000 in 2004.



I wish to congratulate a Citizens Coalition, led by Julie Mitchell of Normandy Park, which worked for months raising money and attempting to find a long-term solution to keep the pool open. Julie Mitchell worked tirelessly as an effective liaison between all the local jurisdictions to keep communication lines open. She and the coalition raised over \$37,000 in individual donations, which was used as revenue to operate the pool while a long-term solution was being negotiated. Thanks to Julie and the Coalition for working so hard to raise money and bring elected officials together for the solution.

*Julie Mitchell, with the Mt. Rainier Swim Team Captains (from left to right) Dustin Mennella, Ben Mitchell, and Brett Bertucio. All three are A students enrolled in honors classes!*

*Ben swims the 100 and 200 freestyle. Brett swims the 100 butterfly and the 500 freestyle, and Dustin swims the 100 butterfly and the 200 freestyle.*

# Julia Patterson

WORKING FOR YOU

#### What Does King County Government Do? King County Regional Services Include:

- Elections • Metro Bus Service • Sheriff • Prosecutor • Jails • Human Services • Garbage Disposal • Sewage Treatment
- Transportation for Seniors • Public Health • Medical Examiner • Public Defense • Courts • Regional Parks